

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A catalytic exhaust-gas purification device, comprising:

a casing;

a monolithic ceramic honeycomb element mounted in said casing;

a compensating layer disposed between said casing and said honeycomb element, said compensating layer ~~comprising~~

including:

a swelling mat with border regions at risk from abrasion;

an insulating mat having a border and an inner region;


said border of said insulating mat having a thicker region at least at one end of said honeycomb element than at a ~~remaining~~ said inner region; and

said swelling mat being disposed adjacent a side of said inner region of said insulating mat facing away from said honeycomb element and said thicker region of said border of said insulating mat covering said border regions of said swelling mat at risk from abrasion;

said compensating layer being wound around said honeycomb element.

Claim 2 (original): The catalytic exhaust-gas purification device according to claim 1, wherein said insulating mat is folded over toward said casing at said border, forming said thicker region of said border.

Claim 3 (original): The catalytic exhaust-gas purification device according to claim 1, wherein said insulating mat contains a ceramic material with very low heat conduction and heat convection properties.

 Claim 4 (original): The catalytic exhaust-gas purification device according to claim 1, wherein said insulating mat contains long ceramic fibers.

Claim 5 (original): The catalytic exhaust-gas purification device according to claim 4, wherein said long ceramic fibers are contained in said thicker region of said border.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The catalytic exhaust-gas purification device according to claim 1, wherein said swelling mat contains a ceramic material with adjacent cavities, said ceramic material being adapted to seal said adjacent cavities by swelling upon absorbing water.

Claim 7 (original): The catalytic exhaust-gas purification device according to claim 1, wherein said compensating layer is formed of a composite material.

Claim 8 (original): The catalytic exhaust-gas purification device according to claim 7, wherein said compensating layer is circumferentially wound at least once around said honeycomb element.

Claim 9 (original): The catalytic exhaust-gas purification device according to claim 7, wherein said compensating layer is assembled from prefabricated segments.


Claim 10 (original): The catalytic exhaust-gas purification device according to claim 9, wherein said segments are selected from the group consisting of cylindrical segments, oval segments, and half shells.

Claim 11 (original): The catalytic exhaust-gas purification device according to claim 9, wherein said segments are matched to a contour of said casing.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A In combination with a honeycomb element, a compensating layer to be wound around the honeycomb element, comprising:

an insulating mat with a border and an inner region, said inner region having a given thickness and said border of said insulating mat being thicker than said inner region at least in parts thereof; and

a swelling mat with border regions at risk from abrasion, said swelling mat being disposed adjacent said inner region of said insulating mat with said thicker parts of said border covers said border regions of said swelling mat at risk from abrasion.

 Claim 13 (original): The compensating layer according to claim 12, wherein said swelling mat and said insulating mat together form a composite for holding a monolithic honeycomb element in a metallic casing of a catalytic exhaust-gas purification device.


Claim 14 (original): The compensating layer according to claim 12, wherein said insulating mat is folded over at an edge thereof, forming said thicker region of said border of said insulating mat.

Claim 15 (original): The compensating layer according to claim 12, wherein said insulating mat contains a ceramic material with very low heat conduction and heat convection properties.

Claim 16 (original): The compensating layer according to claim 12, wherein said insulating mat contains long ceramic fibers.

Claim 17 (original): The compensating layer according to claim 16, wherein said long ceramic fibers are contained in said thicker region of said border.

Claim 18 (original): The compensating layer according to claim 12, wherein said swelling mat contains a ceramic material adapted to swell upon absorbing water.

 Claim 19 (currently amended): The compensating layer according to claim ~~1~~ 12, wherein said compensating layer is formed of a composite material.

Claim 20 (cancelled).

Claim 21 (original): The compensating layer according to claim 19, wherein said compensating layer is assembled from prefabricated segments.

Claim 22 (original): The compensating layer according to claim 19, wherein said segments are selected from the group consisting of cylindrical segments, oval segments, and half shells.

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